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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 01 OF 03 CAIRO 001790

SIPDIS

DEPARTMENT FOR NEA/ELA, AF/SPG, AF/E, AF/C

E.O. 12958: DECL: 09/13/2019 TAGS: <u>PREL SU SO EG</u>
SUBJECT: EGYPTIAN MFA AND AFRICOM DELEGATION DISCUSS AFRICAN ISSUES

Classified By: Deputy Chief of Mission Matthew H. Tueller for reasons 1.4 (b) and (d).

1.(C) Key Points: -- Egyptian MFA officials in meeting with a senior Africom delegation said they are concerned with deteriorating situation in 11. MFA officials said there is a lack of evidence against the suspected pirates, and it is unclear whether the events occurred in Somali water 2.(C) A U.S. Africa Command (Africom) delegation including Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (DASD) Vicki Huddleston and Vice Admiral (VADM 3.(C) Bassim said Egypt's top priority is the unity of Sudan. She warned of "fatal implications" if South Sudan separates. Bassim said that mil 4.(C) Kassem said there is a roadmap on Darfur and it is the international community's responsibility to "pave the way." He told us that UN/AU 5.(C) Kassem praised S/E Gration's "sincere attempts" to resolve the crises in Sudan, which convinced the GoS that the USG was not solely focus 6.(C) Kassem said the GoE is exploring the idea of inviting all major Sudanese political leaders from the North, South, and Darfur to Egypt for 7.(C) Ambassador Osama Abdel Khalq, MFA Cabinet Advisor for African Affairs said the TFG is not capable of defeating Al Shibaab and Hizb Al Isl 8.(C) Bassim said piracy is a byproduct of the failure of the Somali state in the absence of development and political and economic institution 9.(C) Cabinet Advisor Abdel Khalq said Egypt was committed to provide peacekeeping forces in Darfur, Sudan and Eastern Congo. He stated that UN 10.(U) DASD Huddleston and VADM Moeller cleared this cable. Scobev